

INSPECTION NOTES

Pollution Complaint #633
November 24 1982

Rusk Crop Spraying
Kankakee Airport
Route #1
Kankakee, Illinois

Accompanied by Jim Higgins DLPC
Charlie Gebien, DLPC

On the above date at the above location a visit was made to investigate Mr. Pussel's complaint (see attached) regarding run-off caused by Rusk Aviation.

During the visit the following information was obtained:

At the time of visit Rusk Aviation was shut down. Generally it operates from Spring through Fall season. Apparently there was no activity (no loading - no unloading) at the time of visit. Storage tank was located underground on Pussel's property. It was impossible to determine whether there was any waste in the tank or not? by just looking from the outside. It was very likely it could have been pumped out, since there was no activity. Discharge from the field tile appeared clear. It was appeared to be collecting surface run-off. Since there was no other activity at the Pussel Aviation, chances of overflow or spillage from loading zone or storage tank found nil, at the time of visit.


Mr. Pussel (Complainant) was concerned about his well water. IDPH report of June 1981 showed water safe to drink.

- * The well water was sampled and analyzed when yellow-nitro compounds were spilled or overflowed during June of 1981 from the storage tank which belongs to Pussel Aviation. Mr. Pussel claimed storage tank overflows all the time during the operation season. Since the season was closed no evidence were found though the land around the area appeared burned.

Information on the structure of the storage tank and whether it has any direct connection with field tile or not was not known to Mr. Pussel. Disposal site was also questionable.

At the end of visit Mr. Pussel was informed and agreed that any sampling or any other action by Agency at this time will not be very meaningful since the Pussel Aviation is closed.

Mr. Pussel will inform the Agency again around Spring time when Pussel Aviation start doing business.


Jay Patel, Environmental
Protection Engineer, Maywood

JP gkw
Xc DLPC / MAYWOOD
FOS / RU / DLPC

EPA Region 5 Records Ctr



343713

Type of Incident - Facility Runoff

File No -

☐ Emergency☒ Complaint☐ Surveillance☐ Routine Inspection

Principal Investigator - A G Taylor

Agency - IEPA

Phone - 217/782-3397

Initial Action

Date - 10/1/82

Time -

Location of Incident - Kankakee

County - Kankakee

Notifying Party - Anonymous

Phone -

Address -

Alleged Responsible Party - Howard Wheeler

Phone -

Address - Rusk Crop Spraying - Kankakee Airport Rt 1 Kankakee

* Nature of Incident - Loading and mixing area drains into underground collection tank which either overflows into or is directly connected to field tile which discharges into a ditch 200 yards away. Drainage eventually flows to the Kankakee River ~ 2 miles away. Ditch is burned out in area of discharge. Property occupied by another aerial service company (Russell Aviation) being affected. Complainant ~~Potential Dangers~~ had no personal interest other than reporting for Russell Aviation to protect him (Joe Russell) from repercussions since Wheeler is part-time airport manager.

Recommended Actions -

Refer to T Denning and K Bechely, Maywood

Other Agencies Contacted -